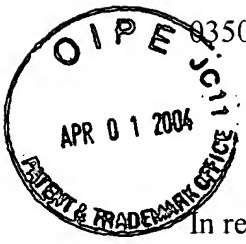


1745



03500.017766

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
Ichiro KATAOKA, et al.)	Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/731,476)	Group Art Unit: 1745
Filed: December 10, 2003)	
For: METHOD OF PRODUCING)	
SOLAR CELL MODULE)	April 1, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the Japanese documents, together with English-language abstracts, are enclosed.

U.S. Patent Nos. 6,149,757, 6,380,025, 6,007,650, 6,227,270, and 6,320,115, and Japan Laid-Open Application Nos. 9-141743, 10-214987, 2000-349309, 9-51114, and 9-36405 are discussed at pages 2 to 5 of the specification.

U.S. Patent No. 6,149,757 is believed to be an English-language counterpart of Japan 9-141743; U.S. Patent No. 6,380,025 is believed to be an English-language counterpart of Japan 2000-349309; U.S. Patent Nos. 6,007,650 and 6,227,270 are believed to be English-language counterparts of Japan 9-51114; and U.S. Patent No. 6,320,115 is believed to be an English-language counterpart of Japan 9-36405.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Application:

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Group Art Unit</u>	<u>Applicants</u>
09/244,163	February 4, 1999	2811	Hidenori Shiotsuka Ichiro Kataoka Satoru Yamada Shigeo Kiso Hideaki Zenko

A copy of the cited U.S. Application is enclosed.

FORMAL MATTERS

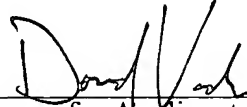
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), since a first Office Action on the merits of the subject application has not yet been issued, neither a statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) nor payment of a fee is believed to be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned with the next official communication indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

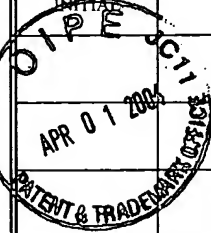
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Damond E. Vadnais', is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants
Damond E. Vadnais
Registration No. 52,310

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
DEV/vc

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted to PTO: April 1, 2004				ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017766		APPLICATION NO. 10/731,476	
				APPLICANT Ichiro KATAOKA, et al.			
				FILING DATE December 10, 2003		GROUP 1745	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,684,325	11/04/1997	Kataoka et al.	257	433	
		6,182,403 B1	02/06/2001	Mimura et al.	52	173.3	
		6,307,145 B1	10/23/2001	Kataoka et al.	136	251	
		5,973,258	10/26/1999	Shiotsuka et al.	136	252	
		6,034,323	03/07/2000	Yamada et al.	136	259	
		6,075,202	06/13/2000	Mori et al.	136	251	
		6,133,522	10/17/2000	Kataoka et al.	136	259	
		6,245,987 B1	06/12/2001	Shiomi et al.	136	244	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		5-55617	03/05/1993	Japan			Abstract
		9-141743	06/03/1997	Japan			Abstract
		10-214987	08/11/1998	Japan			Abstract
		2000-349309	12/15/2000	Japan			Abstract
		9-51114	02/18/1997	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	6,218,609 B1	04/17/2001	Mori et al.	136	259		
	6,162,986	12/19/2000	Shiotsuka et al.	136	244		
	6,291,761 B1	09/18/2001	Takada et al.	136	244		
	6,414,236 B1	07/02/2002	Kataoka et al.	136	251		
	6,613,973 B2	09/02/2003	Mukai et al.	136	255		
	6,515,216 B2	02/04/2003	Zenko et al.	136	244		
	6,653,549 B2	11/25/2003	Matsushita et al.	136	244		
	5,660,646	08/26/1997	Kataoka et al.	136	251		

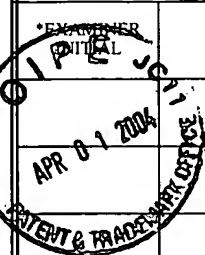
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT		
9-36405	02/07/1997	Japan			Abstract		

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

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*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	6,113,718	09/05/2000	Yamada et al.	156	78		
	5,578,141	11/26/1996	Mori et al.	136	251		
	5,718,772	02/17/1998	Mori et al.	136	251		
	6,320,115 B1	11/20/2001	Kataoka et al.	136	251		
	5,800,631	09/01/1998	Yamada et al.	136	251		
	6,175,075 B1	01/16/2001	Shiotsuka et al.	136	251		
	6,664,597 B2	12/16/2003	Takeyama et al.	257	347		
	6,534,702 B1	03/18/2003	Makita et al.	136	244		

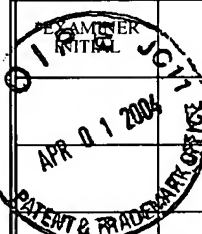
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EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,546,535 B1	04/08/2003	Nagao et al.	716	11	
	6,227,270 B1	05/08/2001	Itoyama et al.	156	382	
	6,380,025 B1	04/30/2002	Suzuki et al.	438	238	
	6,149,757	11/21/2000	Chikaki et al.	156	286	
	6,007,650	12/28/1999	Itoyama et al.	156	87	
	6,676,459 B2	01/13/2004	Mukai et al.	439	884	
	6,703,555 B2	03/09/2004	Takabayashi et al.	136	244	
	6,693,237 B2	02/17/2004	Zenko et al.	136	251	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
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	2003/0005955 A1	01/09/2003	Shiotsuka et al.	136	251		
	2003/0010373 A1	01/16/2003	Tsuzuki et al.	136	244		
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	2003/0234038 A1	12/25/2003	Kurokami et al.	136	255		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT		

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Sheet 5 of 5

Form #62

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